

**INTERIM SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 19-20, 2021  
Roughrider Room, State Capitol  
Bismarck, North Dakota

Senator Ray Holmberg, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Members present:** Senators Ray Holmberg, Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Dick Dever, Robert Erbele, Joan Heckaman, David Hogue, Karen K. Krebsbach, Tim Mathern, Dave Oehlke\*, Nicole Poolman, David S. Rust, Ronald Sorvaag, Terry M. Wanzek

**Members absent:** None

**Others present:** Senator Rich Wardner, Dickinson; Jerry Klein, Fessenden; Donald Schaible, Mott; and Representative Mike Lefor, Dickinson, members of the Legislative Management

Representatives Jon O. Nelson, Rugby; Paul J. Thomas, Velva; Mike Nathe, Bismarck; Mark Sanford, Grand Forks; Jared C. Hagert, Emerado; Dick Anderson, Willow City; Jim Schmidt, Huff; Michael Howe, West Fargo; and Alisa Mitskog, Wahpeton

Senator Curt Kreun, Grand Forks

See [Appendix A](#) for additional persons present.

\*Attended remotely

**It was moved by Senator Krebsbach, seconded by Senator Wanzek, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the October 12-13, 2021, meeting be approved as distributed.**

Mr. Brady Larson, Assistant Legislative Budget Analyst and Auditor, Legislative Council, distributed a memorandum entitled [Potentially Duplicated Proposals Submitted for Consideration by the Interim Appropriations Committee](#).

**PROPOSALS TO USE FUNDS FOR  
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AND OTHER PURPOSES**

The following proposals were presented regarding using federal funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act for infrastructure projects and other purposes. The link for all proposals can be found [here](#).

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
2, 3	Terra Miller Bowley, Deputy Director of Administration, Department of Transportation	Highway, road, and bridge repairs and construction appropriated in House Bill No. 1395 (\$317 million) and \$15 million for road and bridge repairs in Medora ( <a href="#">Appendix B</a> )
4	Senator Kreun	Provide \$100 million for pipeline infrastructure to transport natural gas from western to eastern North Dakota
5	Representative Nelson	Provide \$10 million to provide communities north and south of US Highway 2 access to an existing natural gas pipeline
6	Senator Mathern	Provide \$400 million for fiber optics, natural gas pipelines, water projects, roads and bridges, and green energy projects ( <a href="#">Appendix C</a> )
7	Justin Kringstad, Geological Engineer Director, North Dakota Pipeline Authority	Request \$100 million for a natural gas infrastructure matching grant program to capture and transport excess gas from the western to the eastern area of the state ( <a href="#">Appendix D</a> )

8, 9	Katie Haarsager, Public Information Officer, Industrial Commission	Request \$6.4 million for an abandoned oil well conversion to water supply grant program to convert 20 to 30 abandoned wells to livestock freshwater supply wells for permanent drought resiliency and \$1 million for critical infrastructure corridor and route modeling to determine optimal corridors and routes for carbon capture, utilization, and storage infrastructure ( <a href="#">Appendix E</a> )
10	Karlene Fine, Executive Director, Industrial Commission	Request \$25 million for clean sustainable energy matching grant program to support the development of low-emission energy production technologies in the state ( <a href="#">Appendix F</a> )
11	Ted Preister, Executive Director, Red River Basin Commission	Provide \$14.3 million to manage and research water drainage near Argusville ( <a href="#">Appendix G</a> )
12	Representative Schmidt, Dan Jonasson, Public Works Director, City of Minot, and Brandon Bochenski, Mayor, Grand Forks	Provide \$25 million for Minot flood control and \$25 million for the Red River Valley Water Supply Project ( <a href="#">Appendix H</a> )
13	Senator Sorvaag	Provide \$25 million for water infrastructure
14	Erik Volk, Executive Director, North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association	Provide \$60 million for rural water supply projects ( <a href="#">Appendix I</a> )
15	Andrea Travnicek, Director, Department of Water Resources	Request \$50 million to support strategic water infrastructure projects, including major water distribution systems ( <a href="#">Appendix J</a> )

### Comments By Interested Persons

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
14	Levi Otis, Ellingson Companies	Product costs and labor costs have both increased due to demand and material shortages resulting in higher costs for projects
14	Blake Crosby, Executive Director, North Dakota League of Cities	Supports providing additional funding for water funding to provide flexibility for water infrastructure. Cities are being encouraged to utilize American Rescue Plan Act funding for sewer and water supply projects
15	Dani Hanson, Executive Vice President, North Dakota Irrigation Association	Expressed support for funding for irrigation ( <a href="#">Appendix K</a> )
2, 16	Donnell Preskey, Public Relations Specialist, North Dakota Association of Counties	Highway, road, and bridge repairs and construction and for township road and bridge projects ( <a href="#">Appendix L</a> )

See the following link for infrastructure projects testimony submitted but not presented ([Appendix M](#)).

### PROPOSALS TO USE FUNDS FOR AID TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND OTHER PURPOSES

The following proposals were presented regarding using federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act for aid to political subdivisions and other purposes. The link for all proposals can be found [here](#).

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
17, 18	Senator Wanzek	Provide \$30 million for township road and bridge projects and provide \$50 million for township and county road crossing and drainage improvements ( <a href="#">Appendix N</a> )
19	Representative Thomas	Provide \$780 million for city, county, and township road and bridge projects ( <a href="#">Appendix O</a> )
20	Senator Bekkedahl	Provide \$38 million for the replacement of the US Highway 2 and 26 <sup>th</sup> Street intersection in Williston ( <a href="#">Appendix P</a> )
22	Senator Holmberg and Brandon Bochenski, Mayor, Grand Forks	Provide \$45 million for an underpass at the intersection of Demers Avenue and 42 <sup>nd</sup> Street in Grand Forks ( <a href="#">Appendix Q</a> )
23, 24	Terra Miller Bowley, Deputy Director of Administration, Department of Transportation	Request \$13 million for emergency road repairs and \$10 million to match state funds for normal township road repairs and improvements ( <a href="#">Appendix R</a> )
25, 26	David Bruschwein, Municipal Facilities Director, Department of Environmental Quality	Request \$25 million for lead service line replacement project and \$30 million for sewer and nonpoint source project funding ( <a href="#">Appendix S</a> )

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
27	Tim Wiedrich, Health Resources and Response Section Chief, State Department of Health	Request \$1 million for a high-risk infection disease ambulance project ( <a href="#">Appendix T</a> )
28	Dave Krabbenhoft, Director, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Request \$4.8 million for stipends to county jails for costs to house inmates sentenced to the department but deferred admission due to the pandemic ( <a href="#">Appendix U</a> )
30	Senator Bekkedahl	Provide \$10 million for grants to local park districts to replace revenue lost due to the COVID-19 emergency ( <a href="#">Appendix V</a> )
32	Senator Oehlke	Provide \$70,000 to replace the roof of the Devils Lake Heritage Center
33, 44	Representative Schmidt	Provide \$6.4 million to Selfridge, including \$2.6 million for water system upgrades, \$2.3 million for street upgrades, and \$1.5 million for related administrative costs and provide \$17.6 million to the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation for water infrastructure ( <a href="#">Appendix W</a> )
34	Senator Krebsbach and Dan Jonasson, Public Works Director, City of Minot	Provide \$66.4 million to Minot for bridge and water projects ( <a href="#">Appendix H</a> )
35	Representative Nathe	Fill the remaining Operation Prairie Dog buckets, including \$115 million for counties and townships, \$85 million for cities, and \$20 million for airports
36	Representative Thomas	Fill the remaining Operation Prairie Dog buckets, including \$115 million for counties and townships, \$85 million for cities, and \$20 million for airports ( <a href="#">Appendix X</a> )
37, 43	Senator Poolman and Michelle Klose, Director of Utility Operations, City of Bismarck	Provide \$50 million to Bismarck for a wastewater treatment plant, lift station, and interceptor ( <a href="#">Appendix Y</a> )
38	Senator Wanzek, Dwaine Heinrich, Mayor, City of Jamestown, and Travis Dillman, City Engineer, Jamestown	Provide \$39.9 million to Jamestown for water and sewer projects ( <a href="#">Appendix Z</a> )
42	Representative Lefor and Brian Winningham, City Administrator, City of Dickinson	Provide \$221 million to Dickinson, including \$35 million for a Patterson Lake project, \$1 million for fire and ambulance services, \$44 million for downtown utility upgrades, \$110 million for Medora sewer connection, \$3 million for library expansion, \$15 million for a public safety training center, \$5 million for water line replacement, and \$8 million for a recycling center ( <a href="#">Appendix AA</a> )
45	Senator Bekkedahl	Provide \$17 million to Williston for wastewater treatment facility projects, including \$9 million for old lagoon reclamation and \$8 million for a protective levee around the current facility ( <a href="#">Appendix BB</a> )
46	Representative Howe	Provide \$4.16 million to Horace for wastewater treatment infrastructure ( <a href="#">Appendix CC</a> )
47	Representative Nelson	Provide \$3 million for a wastewater project at Lake Upsilon in Rolette County
48	Representative Schmidt and Bill Robinson, Board Member, Lower Heart River Water Resource District	Provide \$20 million for the Lower Heart River Water Resource District ( <a href="#">Appendix DD</a> )

### Comments By Interested Persons

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
46	Kory Peterson, Mayor, City of Horace	Expressed support for \$4.16 million to Horace for wastewater treatment infrastructure ( <a href="#">Appendix EE</a> )
35, 36	Donnell Preskey, Public Relations Specialist, North Dakota Association of Counties	Expressed support for filling the remaining Operation Prairie Dog buckets, including \$115 million for counties and townships, \$85 million for cities, and \$20 million for airports ( <a href="#">Appendix L</a> )
35, 36	Ryan Riesinger, President, Airport Association of North Dakota	Expressed support for filling the remaining Operation Prairie Dog buckets, including \$115 million for counties and townships, \$85 million for cities, and \$20 million for airports ( <a href="#">Appendix FF</a> )
17, 18	Sam Vangsness, North Dakota Corn Growers Association	Expressed support for township road and bridge infrastructure ( <a href="#">Appendix GG</a> )

See the following link for aid to political subdivisions testimony submitted but not presented ([Appendix HH](#)).

## PROPOSALS TO USE FUNDS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER PURPOSES

The following proposals were presented regarding using federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act for capital improvements and other purposes. The link for all proposals can be found [here](#).

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
49	Senator Mathern	Provide \$25 million for a new women's prison ( <a href="#">Appendix C</a> )
50	Senator Dever	Provide \$15 million to renovate the Highway Patrol training academy or \$30 million to build a new academy
51	Blaine Schatz, Assistant Director, North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station	Provide \$2.2 million for a new seed cleaning plant and shop building at the Dickinson Research Extension Center (REC) ( <a href="#">Appendix II</a> )
52	Senator Wardner and Greg Lardy, Vice President for Agricultural Affairs, North Dakota State University	Provide \$78.3 million for capital projects, including \$70 million to replace Waldron Hall, \$2.45 million to construct 7 equipment storage sheds, \$446,000 for projects at the Carrington REC, \$1,963,000 for projects at the Central Grasslands REC, and \$3.42 million for projects at the Hettinger REC ( <a href="#">Appendix JJ</a> )
53	Rocky Bateman, Board Member, Morton County Soil Conservation District	Request funding of \$2.7 million to purchase land for Area 4 Soil Conservation Research Farm ( <a href="#">Appendix KK</a> )
55	Senator Bekkedahl	Provide \$1.3 million for \$100,000 of deferred maintenance or small capital projects at each of the 13 state parks
56	Christie Massen, Chief Laboratory Officer, Division of Microbiology, State Department of Health	Request \$30 million for the renovation of the public health laboratory ( <a href="#">Appendix LL</a> )
57-59	Dave Krabbenhoft, Director, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Request \$8,045,389 for deferred maintenance and facility upgrades; \$2,995,200 for a free through recovery program capacity increase, wait time reduction, recidivism reduction, and improve outcomes; and \$10,747,472 for information technology improvements and upgrades ( <a href="#">Appendix MM</a> )
60, 61	Cody Schulz, Director, Parks and Recreation Department	Request \$16,849,000 in additional funding for deferred maintenance and essential infrastructure and \$5 million for road work to repair and improve access roadways across the park system ( <a href="#">Appendix NN</a> )
62, 64	Joe Morrisette, Director, Office of Management and Budget	Request \$18.7 million for critical maintenance projects and \$7 million for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning improvements to the legislative chambers and the Brynhild Haugland room ( <a href="#">Appendix OO</a> )
63	Stacey Breuer, Chief People Officer, Office of Management and Budget	Request \$500,000 for the human resources transformation initiative ( <a href="#">Appendix PP</a> )
65	Bill Peterson, Director, State Historical Society	Request \$950,000 for essential infrastructure at historic sites ( <a href="#">Appendix QQ</a> )
66	Representative Lefor and Kent Anderson, Chief Financial Office, Dickinson State University	Provide \$8.4 million for various equipment, software, personnel, and projects at Dickinson State University ( <a href="#">Appendix RR</a> )
67	Senator Oehlke	Provide \$1.9 million for various equipment, software, personnel, and projects at Lake Region State College ( <a href="#">Appendix SS</a> )
68	Representative Hagert	Provide \$32.4 million for various equipment, software, personnel, and projects at Mayville State University, including \$30 million to renovate Old Main ( <a href="#">Appendix TT</a> )
69	Senator Krebsbach	Provide \$5 million to Minot State University, including \$1.74 million for nursing program renovation and equipment, \$806,000 for academic program modernization, \$1.5 million for emergency generators, \$600,000 for deferred maintenance and COVID-19 remediation projects, and \$350,000 for a mobile medical unit ( <a href="#">Appendix UU</a> )

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
70	Representative Mitskog and John Richman, President, North Dakota State College of Science	Provide \$22.4 million for capital projects, equipment, and other priorities at the North Dakota State College of Science, including \$5 million for the career innovation center, \$4.3 million for instructional equipment, \$2 million for heating and cooling, and \$8.2 million for Hektner Student Center improvements ( <a href="#">Appendix VV</a> )
71	Senator Sorvaag and Greg Lardy, Vice President for Agricultural Affairs, North Dakota State University and Denver Tolliver, Director, Upper Great Plain Transportation Institute	Provide \$89.8 million for capital projects and other programs at North Dakota State University, including \$70 million for an agronomic, pathology, and soils field laboratory facility, \$2.2 million for high performance computing, \$2.5 million for student scholarships, \$11 million for a campus boiler system, \$3.65 million for a feed mill, and \$420,000 for a transportation data intelligence center ( <a href="#">Appendix WW</a> )
73	Representative Sanford	Provide \$125 million for higher education capital projects, including \$25 million for Hartnett Hall at Minot State University, \$50 million for Merrifield Hall at the University of North Dakota, and \$50 million for a polytechnic building at Bismarck State College ( <a href="#">Appendix XX</a> )
74	Representative Nelson	Provide \$2.1 million to the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences for equipment and personnel to use hyperbaric oxygen therapy ( <a href="#">Appendix YY</a> )
75, 76	Representative Nathe	Provide \$10.5 million to establish a Center for Space Education and Research at the University of North Dakota ( <a href="#">Appendix ZZ</a> )
77	Alan LaFave, President, Valley City State University	Provide \$9.25 million to renovate McCarthy Hall to create a new School of Education and the Department of Technology Education and Technical Education Programs at Valley City State University ( <a href="#">Appendix AAA</a> )
78	Senator Bekkedahl	Provide \$1,480,810, including \$807,500 for employee retention incentive pay and \$673,810 for equipment and capital projects at Williston State College ( <a href="#">Appendix BBB</a> )
79	Representative Sanford and Mark Hagerott, Chancellor, University System	Provide \$1,675,000 for the North Dakota University System, including \$475,000 for the Dakota Digital Academy, and \$1 million for cybersecurity ( <a href="#">Appendix CCC</a> )
81	Darin King, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology, North Dakota University System	Request \$1 million for University System Core Technology Services cybersecurity for all universities ( <a href="#">Appendix DDD</a> )
82	David Krebsbach, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, North Dakota University System	Request \$1,797,268 for workforce initiatives ( <a href="#">Appendix EEE</a> )

### Comments By Interested Persons

Item Number	Presenter	Subject Summary
52	Representative D. Anderson and Dr. Jerry Migler, Dean, Dakota College at Bottineau	Request \$2.9 million for infrastructure for three residence halls at the Dakota College at Bottineau ( <a href="#">Appendix FFF</a> )
	Sarah Lovas, Chairman, North Dakota State Board of Agriculture	Provided background information regarding Waldron Hall
	Renae Bloms, Fiscal Management Analyst, Office of Management and Budget	Handed out a facility improvement measure matrix ( <a href="#">Appendix GGG</a> )

See the following link for capital improvements testimony submitted but not presented ([Appendix HHH](#)).

No further business appearing, Chairman Holmberg adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m. on Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

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Alex J. Cronquist  
Senior Fiscal Analyst

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Chris J. Kadrmas  
Senior Fiscal Analyst

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Brady A. Larson  
Assistant Legislative Budget Analyst and Auditor

ATTACH:60